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Stability Policing: genesis of a ground-breaking peacekeeping tool from the Balkans to Afghanistan, through Iraq

Abstract

Stability policing, often referred to as peacekeeping or peace enforcement, is a critical component of post-conflict scenarios aimed at maintaining peace, security, and stability in regions or countries that have experienced armed conflict or civil unrest. Stability policing involves the deployment of military or police forces, often under the auspices of international organizations such as the United Nations (UN), to establish and maintain a secure and stable environment in conflict-affected areas. The primary goal is to prevent a recurrence of violence and to create conditions conducive to long-term peace and development. One of the main tasks of stability policing is the protection of civilians. This includes protecting vulnerable populations, such as refugees and internally displaced persons, from harm and ensuring that their basic needs are met. The event aims to increase understanding of both the challenges of stability policing and the activities promoted by CoESPU.

The **Center of Excellence for Stability Police Units** (CoESPU) operates as a center for advanced studies and a doctrinal hub, serving as a think tank and a training center. By the virtue of the fact that the CoESPU is collocated with the Permanent Headquarters of the European Gendarmerie Force (EGF) and the NATO SP CoE (Stability Policing Center of Excellence), the Center plays a key role in the effective research and doctrinal interchange, as well as in providing mutual training among different International Organizations. Since its foundation, the CoESPU has organized training and educational activities, to increase the global capability of the Peace Support Operations (PSOs) - now Peace Operations (POs) - and CoESPU trainees have become the nucleus of a robust, Carabinieri-like Peacekeeping Police Force, who are able to carry out their duties in the context of POs, especially in destabilized environments.



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